FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 OCTOBER 1984

Lebanon

Howe Visit — Britain can participate in UNIFIL if asked to do so by the Lebanese Government, although "our participation in the field is not the only way to offer support," British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe stated in remarks reported by Beirut radio following his 28 October talks with President Amin al-Jumayyil in Bikfayya. Sir Geoffrey subsequently arrived in Israel, where he said he would discuss the problem of south Lebanon with his Israeli counterpart, Yitzhaq Shamir. In his arrival statement, which was broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Sir Geoffrey also denied that he is playing a mediation role.

Meanwhile, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, Prime Minister Rashid Karami reaffirmed Lebanon's demand that negotiations with Israel must take place through the Armistice Committee, stating that "any talks through the military must be conducted on the basis of the armistice agreement." In Jerusalem, the Israeli Cabinet unanimously approved a "two-track" approach on Lebanon whereby Israel will continue to seek contacts with the Lebanese aimed at changing the UNIFIL mandate, while the United States will hold parallel negotiations with Syria, according to Jerusalem radio.

Internal Situation — In the wake of the Cabinet decision to control illegal ports, the government has authorized the Lebanese Army, Navy, and Air Force to bombard any ship violating this law, Beirut radio announced on 27 October. The ports regarded as legal are Beirut, Tripoli, Juniyah, Sidon, and Tyre, according to an official source cited by Voice of Lebanon radio. The Cabinet has also approved a security plan to control the situation at Beirut Airport and along the airport road, Prime Minister Karami disclosed in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio. However, the Druze and Shi'ite leaders, Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri, criticized the government for failing to implement its policies, and Birri indicated that he may resign from the Cabinet, the radio noted.

Military Situation — Both the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio and the Voice of Lebanon reported further clashes between the Army and Junblatt's forces in the Al-Shuf area southeast of Beirut. A clandestine Radio Free Lebanon report that Israeli planes raided positions in the Al-Biqa' Valley on 28 October was not confirmed by monitored Israeli media. Earlier, the Voice of Lebanon cited reports that the Syrians had recently installed SAM-6 batteries in the area. Meanwhile, an IDF soldier was injured by a mine in the 'Ammiq area of eastern Lebanon, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio.

Israel

One Arab was killed and eight others were injured in a rocket attack on a bus leaving Jerusalem along the Hebron road, Jerusalem radio reported on 28 October. A note found by the rocket launcher said the attack was in revenge for the recent murder of two Israeli students near Bayt Jala. The radio subsequently disclosed that the "Avengers" organization had claimed responsibility for the attack, warning in a written note that it will continue to strike Arab targets unless Jewish terror suspects are released immediately and unless capital punishment is reinstituted for terrorists. Police detained three Jews in connection with the attack but later released them, the radio noted. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and other ministers sharply condemned the attack, though the KAKH movement welcomed it as an act of revenge by "courageous" Jews, according to Jerusalem radio and television. As for the Palestinians, a PLO Executive Committee statement cited by radio Monte Carlo viewed the incident as part of a scheme of "mass terrorism" and warned that the PLO will not "remain silent" over such operations.

PLO

"The door has not yet been closed" on Algeria as a venue for the PNC session, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed, reporting on Palestinian leaders' talks in Tunis on 27 October. Earlier, PLO official Khalil al-Wazir stated in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo that the Algiers site had been agreed upon, pending a reply from Algeria. PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum also supported the Algiers location in a Radio Monte Carlo interview, but he stipulated that there should first be agreement based on a dialogue between "resistance factions and nationalistic figures." However, according to Kuwait's *AL-SIYASAH*, a new PLO will be announced in Damascus in mid-November, to include the Fatah dissidents, Al-Sa'iqah, the Palestine Struggle Front, and the PFLP-General Command, and this will mean a "final split."

Terrorist Attack Warnings

A terrorist group, including Lebanese and Palestinians, is preparing a terrorist operation against a U.S. embassy in the Gulf region, according to "special security reports" cited by Voice of Lebanon radio. "Well-informed U.S. sources" in Paris likewise disclosed to Kuwait's *AL-QABAS* that the CIA has information of an impending "kamikaze" attack by a small aircraft against a U.S. target in the Middle East, possibly the U.S. ambassador's residence in Lebanon. *AL-QABAS* said its sources hinted that the CIA may take preemptive action against certain individuals believed to be responsible for this hostile activity.

Attack on UAE Envoy

A caller claiming to represent the "Arab Revolutionary Brigades" told AFP that his organization was responsible for the 26 October attack on the UAE vice consul in Rome. A young Jordanian confessed to the shooting, which wounded the diplomat and killed an Iranian woman accompanying him, AFP noted.

Sudan

The security forces have uncovered a Libyan-backed plot to spread chaos and confusion in Sudan, the National Security Council announced in a statement carried by SUNA. Noting that the leader of the plot and his aides have been arrested, the statement said the conspiracy was disclosed to the authorities by some of the retired military men and workers who had been recruited by the plotters "on a racial basis." The plotters have confessed that they received Libyan financial assistance and promises of air support to back a "move" by Ethiopia.

Egypt

President Husni Hubarak left for a visit to France and the FRG, MENA announced on 29 October. Earlier, Mubarak received Soviet Ambassador to Egypt Aleksandr Belonogov, a meeting the ambassador termed "fruitful and important," the agency reported.

OPEC

OPEC oil ministers flew into Geneva for an emergency meeting in which, sources cited by KUNA predicted, it may be difficult to agree on parceling out lower production quotas since many OPEC countries can ill afford to lose oil revenues. Meanwhile, Iran's Oil Ministry insisted that the only way to strengthen the oil market and prevent a price collapse is for all OPEC members to cooperate in reducing oil production, Tehran radio reported. However, Nigerian Oil Minister David Tam-West stated that Nigeria does not intend to reduce its output and will not raise its oil prices unless world prices rise, according to AFP.

Iran

Foreign Relations — Iran should have diplomatic relations with all countries apart from the United States, Israel, and South Africa, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni stressed in a speech to Foreign Ministry officials reported by IRNA and Tehran radio. He criticized those who argue that Iran should have nothing to do with other governments, calling this view a "very crucial and dangerous mischief." Iran should maintain relations not only with tho[illegible] guide but [illegible] not gu[illegible] though it must be careful not to be s[illegible]ce" by the latter, Khomeyni added.

Vatican Bomb — A bomb explosion damaged the residence of the Iranian ambassador to the Vatican on the night of 27 October, IRNA reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iranian Foreign Ministry official cited by IRNA rejected the "distorted" account by the international committee of the Red Cross of a recent riot by Iraqi POW's in a Gorgan camp and accused the ICRC of violating the Geneva Convention by publicizing the incident before a full investigation. Iran will permit the United Nations to investigate the incident if Iraq agrees to a similar investigation into the condition of its Iranian POW's, "thousands" of whom are "missing," the Iranian official stated. Giving Iran's version of the riot at the Gorgan camp, he claimed that a group of POW's had attacked the guards and other POW's, obliging the guards to use plastic bullets to disperse them. Three of the five POW's killed were hacked to death by the rioters, according to the official.

As for the military situation, both sides accused each other of violating the UN-sponsored moratorium on attacking civilian targets. An Iraqi communique cited by Baghdad radio said four Iraqi civilians were killed by shellfire on 27 October, while an Iranian communique reported by IRNA stated that Iraq has committed over 80 violations of the moratorium since its inception in June, killing or wounding over 70 Iranians, Tehran radio reported.

DRA

Afghan authorities handed over captured French TV journalist Jacques Abouchar to the head of the French National Assembly on 27 October, BAKHTAR reported.

In a separate development, the DRA Foreign Ministry protested to Pakistan over a 24 October cross-border shelling incident, BAKHTAR disclosed.

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Protest to Pakistan on Jaji Shelling
LD271626 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1245 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] Kabul, 27 Oct, BAKHTAR — The charge d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul was summoned this morning at 0945 to the Foreign Affairs Ministry. The head of the First Political Directorate of the Foreign Affairs Ministry told the Pakistani charge d'affaires, in connection with the recent aggression by Pakistan in Jaji region:

The DRA relevant authorities report that on 24 October, as a result of heavy and long-range weapons' fire from Pakistani territory on the Jaji region, several inhabitants and military personnel were wounded and several houses were destroyed. The DRA strongly condemns this repeated armed aggression and provocation by Pakistani border units, which is carried out against the DRA territory at the instruction of Pakistani military authorities, and protests to the Government of Pakistan. In addition, the DRA reminds Pakistan that relevant Pakistani authorities should immediately end such armed aggression and provocation, otherwise the heavy responsibility arising from such hostile actions, which are contrary to international norms and principles, will totally rest on the Pakistani authorities.

Abouchar Released to French Assembly Group
LD271731 Kabul BAKHTAR In Pashto 1245 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] Kabul 27 Oct (BAKHTAR) — According to a report by a BIA correspondent, Sarwar Yoresh, member of the Revolutionary Council and deputy minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, met in his office this morning with the French National Assembly delegation which recently came to Kabul to get Jacques Abouchar, a French citizen.

Yves Tavernier, vice president of the French National Assembly [title as heard] said: On behalf of the president of the French National Assembly, all members, myself and the delegation, I want to express the profound thanks and gratitude of the people of France and myself regarding the decision by esteemed Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, to grant clemency to Jacques Abouchar.

The French people sincerely welcome and are happy about this humanitarian decision by the esteemed president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

Sarwar Yoresh told the French delegation that because Jacques Abouchar entered DRA territory illegally with an armed counterrevolutionary band to perpetrate hostile activities and cooperate with armed counterrevolutionary bands, surely the DRA government, as an independent country with national sovereignty, has and will have the duty to prosecute such persons and sentence them in accordance with the country's laws. However, as a result of the request by Louis Mermaz, president of the French National Assembly; feelings of friendship; and in view of the good relations with the people of France, as well as in view of humanitarian considerations,despite the seriousness of Abouchar's crime, the DRA Revolutionary Council pardoned him by Decree No 71 dated 25 October 1984 which was approved by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

It is hoped that the responsible French authorities seriously consider that such an incident should not be repeated in the future; otherwise, all consequences will be borne by the responsible French authorities, and the DRA will be obliged to fully implement the DRA laws and regulations against such persons.

According to another report, Jacques Abouchar was handed over to the head of the French National Assembly delegation at 1300 by the relevant authorities. They soon left Kabul airport for France.

Najibollah Congratulates Orgun Armed Forces
LD261655 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] Greetings and best wishes were conveyed today from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, to the courageous officers, NCO's and men of the units and companies of the armed forces in Orgun by Najibollah, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and head of the state information services. He congratulated them on their recent victories in combat in this region.

Najibollah and his delegation which included Brigadier General Mohammad Farouq, head of political affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs; and Major General Gholam Nabi, deputy minister of the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs, then viewed rebel weapons seized by officers and men of the units and companies of the Orgun armed forces.

These weapons include 20 82mm mortars; 7 recoilless rifles; more than 30 rocket launchers; more than 20,000 antitank and antipersonnel mines, 12 Chinese DSHKs, 6 ZK-1, 3 ZK-2, more than 500 various light weapons and countless shells for the above various weapons.

Moreover, as a result of the successful combat operations of the units and companies of Orgun, four vehicles, one tractor, foodstuffs, ammunition and medicine, as well as communications units of the enemy, were seized by the heroic soldiers. One enemy tractor with other transportationequipment, and a large amount of weapons and ammunition of the enemy were destroyed.

After meeting the officers and men, Najibollah met the inhabitants of the region and various villages of Orgun and presented 50,000 afghanis to the people of these places for the construction of mosques.

The BIA correspondent reports that the noble and patriotic inhabitants of the villages and hamlets of Orgun then gave Najibollah, and through him to Babrak Karmal, an assurance that they will always fight on the side of the heroic units stationed in Orgun, and are prepared for every sacrifice and devotion to crush the treacherous rebels.

Rebel Supporters Surrender Under Amnesty Decree

LD281821 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Excerpts] A source in the country's security force reports to the BAKHTAR information agency that recently three groups of deceived persons took advantage of the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium and surrendered with their weapons to security forces in Parwan Province.

According to another report, a 30-member group led by Mawladad, son of Mohammad Omar, cooperated with rebels because of sinister counterrevolutionary propaganda.

Now they realize the truth of the April Revolution and under the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium amnesty decree, surrendered with their weapons to security forces in Badghis Province. They repented their past actions and pledged to struggle against rebels.

Similarly, another 35-member group surrendered with their weapons to security forces in Ghormach District.

Mujahidin Reportedly Down Soviet Helicopter

BK261035 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the Mujahidin shot down a Soviet helicopter when it was bombing an area near (Kalingar) in Lowgar Province. The Soviet pilot and the crew were killed on the spot. As a result of the bombing, 15 women and innocent children were martyred while 8 houses were destroyed.

Another report says the freedom fighters conducted two operations in Qandahar City, killing seven Soviet-Karmal soldiers. The soldiers were captured along with arms and ammunition.

Pakistani Paper on Soviet Troop Increases

GF260820 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 3 Oct 84 P 8

[Text] Reports from across the border speak of Afghan Armed Forces activity and concentration of troops along Pak-Afghan border area adjacent to Baluchistan. These reports indicate intensive Afghan activity along Chagai District of Baluchistan bordering Afghanistan and Iran. Similar reports were received from the Pak-Afghan border town of Chaman. Soviet-supported Afghan Armed Forces are reported to have set up a chain of military posts along the border. Another report reveals a Karmal regime request for a fresh contingent of 50,000 troops from the Soviet Union raising the total strength of Soviet troops to 1.5 lakhs [150,000] in Afghanistan.

Country Reportedly To Be Put Under Siege

BK271229 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] In Afghanistan, the Soviet-Karmal forces are reported to have decided to place all the urban and rural areas under siege in a bid to check increasing activities of the Afghan Mujahidin. Barbed wire will be laid in all these areas, and incoming and outgoing people will be allowed to move only through the prescribed routes. Regular check posts are also being set up from where people will be required to get permits for movement.

Briefs

Land Reform Continues — In continuation of the second stage of the democratic land reform and just distribution of water, 125 land title deeds were recently presented to landless peasants and smallholders in Greshk District, Helmand Province. [Excerpt] [*Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 27 Oct 84 LD*]

Delhi: Opposition Presses for Martial Law Withdrawal

BK270902 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, opposition parties today launched a series of meetings, rallies, and demonstrations to press for the withdrawal of martial law and the formation of a nonparty caretaker government to conduct parliamentary elections.

Meanwhile, a large number of people, including 21 police personnel, were injured when two rival factions of the Janadal party clashed at a public meeting in Sylhet yesterday. According to an agency report the trouble started when the secretary general of the Janadal, Mr Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, rose to address the meeting. Before he could start his speech two rival factions clashed in which brickbats and other heavy missiles were freely used. Policemen were injured when they tried to intervene.

Election Postponed Due to 'Prevailing Situation'

BK271716 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] Considering the prevailing situation in the country the chief martial law administrator has declared the postponement of the parliamentary election until further notice.

Boycott Cited

BK280638 Dhaka BSS in English 0619 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 28 BSS — President Hussain Mohammad Ershad has announced the postponement of parliamentary elections, due on December 8. President Ershad postponed the elections in view of boycott of the mainstream opposition. He hasn't refixed the date of the elections.

Delhi: Opposition Criticizes Postponement

BK280425 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, the two major opposition alliances have criticized the government's decision to postpone parliamentary election. The Bangladesh Nationalist Party, leading the 7-party alliance, said in a statement that the postponement was unwarranted. The opposition had not backed out from the election as alleged by Lieutenant General Ershad, the statement said. The 15-party alliance led by Awami League said this decision will add fuel to the fire.

Opposition Questions Government Intentions

BK291027 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, the leader of the main opposition party, Mrs Hasina Wajed, has said that the postponement of elections scheduled for early December demonstrated the military government's desire to prolong martial law in the country. Addressing a rally in Chittagong yesterday, she said the opposition will continue to demand an end to martial law and to hold elections under a neutral caretaker government. The leader of the 7-party opposition alliance, Mrs Khaleda Zia, has alleged that the government is never serious about holding elections and transferring power to the people's representatives.

Government, Opposition To Talk

BK291613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, the military government is to start talks soon with the major opposition parties to resolve the present political deadlock. This was announced at a news conference in Dhaka this evening by Mr A.R. Yusuf, special assistant to the president, Lieutenant General Ershad. The news comes in the wake of the government's decision to postpone parliamentary elections scheduled for December. Opposition parties have been demanding withdrawal of martial law and installation of a caretaker government to supervise the polls as precondtions for their participation.

BBC on Election Postponement

BK281040 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 28 Oct 84

[From "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] There have been no official elaboration in Bangladesh of the announcement by the military ruler, General Ershad, that the parliamentary elections have been postponed indefinitely. However, it seems fairly certain that the decision was reached as a result of the opposition's conditions for the holding of such elections. Abdul Samad sends this dispatch from Dhaka:

[Samad report read by announcer] Gen Ershad observed on 11 October that if the main opposition parties did not come forward to take part in the 8 December elections, he would then (?postpone it) and continue with martial law rule.

The main opposition parties, grouped into two main alliances, had for their part announced the very next day that they would not allow any general election to be held under martial law and with a partisan government in power. Gen Ershad also so far has stuck to his own position that martial law would be lifted only after the elections. The cryptic one-sentence announcement postponing the elections did not explain what he called the prevailing situation in the country. But it did coincide with the beginning of the opposition's new agitation program from today for pressing their demands. The government-backed party Janadal is also observing a protest week against the opposition stand. There have been some clashes, too, though not on a large scale.

A leader of the opposition 15-party alliance told the BBC that they would probably call off their countrywide demonstrations on 1 November, the earlier scheduled date for filing of candidature.

UK's Princess Anne Departs for Calcutta

BK280658 Dhaka BSS in English 0624 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 28, BSS — Princess Anne of Britain (? left) here this morning for Calcutta to begin 15-day tour of India after six-day visit to Bangladesh.

Princes Anne, who heads the Save the Children Foundation [SCF], was happy to visit various SCF-aided child and mother welfare projects.

In the last few days the princess visited Khulna and Dewangonj outside the capital where SCF-aided projects were located among other places.

She was happy to see the clinics maintained by SCF in Bangladesh providing good services and said she had "enormously enjoyed" the trip.

Gandhi Arrives in Srinagar on 2-day Visit

BK270848 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, arrived in Srinagar this morning by a special plane on a 2-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir. She was received at the airport by the state governor, Mr Jagmohan; the chief minister, Mr G.M. Shah; and senior army officers. From the airport Mrs Gandhi drove straight to the Chasmasahi guesthouse.

Warns of External, Internal Dangers

BK271601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] The prime minister has warned the nation of external and internal dangers. It is also essential to have constant vigil in running the affairs of the state.

Mrs Gandhi said this during an hour-long meeting with members of the Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet in Srinagar today. She said the center is fully aware of the problems of the state, particularly the funds and shortage of power. She said all efforts have been made to solve them.

Earlier, the governor, Mr Jagmohan, the chief minister, Mr G.M. Shah, and the deputy chief minister, Mr D.D. Thakur, had separate meetings with Mrs Gandhi in which economic problems of the state were discussed.

Mrs Gandhi arrived in Srinagar this morning on a 2-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir. Talking to newsmen at the airport, Mrs Gandhi hoped that there will be no trouble on the country's border. She also expressed concern over the poor tourist season and said she is always concerned about the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Returns to Delhi

BK280933 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, returned to New Delhi after a 2-day visit to Srinagar. Earlier, at Srinagar she was seen off at the airport, among others, by the Jammu and Kashmir governor, Mr Jagmohan, and the chief minister, Mr G.M. Shah.

Gandhi Says No Danger Posed To Pakistan

BK290923 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] The prime minister has reiterated that India does not pose any danger to Pakistan, but the acquisition of extremely sophisticated aircraft by that country is causing much concern toIndia. This was stated by Mrs Gandhi in an interview to a correspondent of *EL NACIONAL* of Mexico.

The prime minister said that no government can neglect taking basic defensive precautions. India believes in peace and that is the reason a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation has been offered to Pakistan. Mrs Gandhi said Pakistan once received military help in the name of fighting the Soviet Union and communist China, but those weapons were actually used against India and it is difficult to forget that experience, especially when it is being supplied with sophisticated military hardware.

Replying to a question, the prime minister said India disapproved nuclear bases anywhere. The base at Diego Garcia is a threat to all countries in the Indian Ocean region. Mrs Gandhi reaffirmed that India does not have a nuclear bomb nor does it plan to produce or acquire any. India stands for nuclear disarmament and its nuclear program is fully dedicated to peace. Recalling the country's efforts for the freezing of nuclear arms and disarmament, Mrs Gandhi said that even before India became the chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement, it had always voiced the feelings of other countries.

The prime minister pointed out that the Mexican president, Mr de la Madrid, had joined the heads of government of Argentina, Greece, Sweden, Tanzania and India in a fervent appeal for nuclear disarmament. This initiative has been welcomed by several governments and groups of parliamentarians and prominent citizens of many countries.

Asked about the main problems facing the Nonaligned Movement, Mrs Gandhi said that there is persistent pressure and moves to divide them and involve them in local and global confrontation. Many countries are lured with advanced military weaponry far beyond their actual requirement and this increases their dependence. Those who are pliable get greater economic help and those wishing to remain independent are denied their due, Mrs Gandhi added.

About the problem of overburdening external debts of the Third World countries, the prime minister said that the effective solution will have to be in terms of programs that increase the tempo of development and allow their economies to bring about basic structural changes. On the North-South dialog, Mrs Gandhi said South-South cooperation is not a substitute for North-South cooperation and it does not relieve the developed countries of the responsibility to support the developmental efforts of the developing countries.

Tamil Nadu Minister on Alliance With Congress-I

BK261650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] The Tamil Nadu finance minister, Mr V.R. Neduchezhiyan, met the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in New Delhi today. He informed her about the condition of the chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran. Later, in a statement Mr Neduchezhiyan said the chief minister has shown marked improvement. About the functioning of the state government, he said work is going on smoothly. He said Mr Ramachandran had a few days before his illness conveyed to the prime minister his party's desire to have alliance with the Congress-I in the parliamentary elections. In this context, Mr Neduchezhiyan described his talks with Mrs Gandhi as fruitful.

Rival Claims To Head Maneka Gandhi Party

BK270940 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] Agency reports say that some members of the Rashtriya Sanjay Vichar Manch have expelled the party president, Mrs Maneka Gandhi. In a statement they said that the decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the national committee. They have elected Mr Ramesh Sharma as the chairman of the party. Meanwhile, the senior general secretary of the Manch, Mr (J.M. Mishra) has stated that Mr Ramesh Sharma was expelled from the general secretary of the Manch in August and also from the primary membership later. Mr Mishra also said that the other members have nothing to do with the Manch.

More on Claim

BK271623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] Mr Ramesh Sharma has denied that he was ever expelled from the Rashtriya Sanjay Manch. Addressing a news conference in New Delhi today, he claimed that he has been elected chairman of the party by members of the national committee. Addressing another news conference, a senior vice president of the Manch, Mr Akbar Ahmed, reiterated that Mr Ramesh Sharma was expelled from the party. He said the members of the national committee, mentioned by Mr Sharma, have also nothing to do with the Manch.

One Killed, Two Injured in Punjab Incidents

BK270632 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] In Punjab, one person was killed and two seriously injured in two different violent incidents in Amritsar District. In one incident, one person was killed and another injured when two unidentified miscreants fired at them in village (Chola Sahib) yesterday. In the other incident the caretaker of a religious place was injured when some unidentified persons fired at him in (Fatehgarh Churian) last evening.

Meanwhile, Amritsar police apprehended four hardcore terrorists from near the border. A large quantity of arms and ammunition have been recovered from their possession. According to an official spokesman they have confessed to having received intensive training in the use of firearms from a neighboring country. They had planned to kill a number of persons including the Nihang Chief Baba Santa Singh.

Congress-I Backs Tripura Strike; 3 Injured

BK270927 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] A 12-hour Tripura bundh [strike], which began this morning, is peaceful except for one incident so far. The call for the bundh has been given by the Tripura Pradesh [state] Congress-I Committee demanding the dismissal of the Left Front ministry for its failure to maintain law and order, imposition of president's rule and declaration that the whole of Tripura is a disturbed area. The state chief secretary, Mr I.P. Gupta, told the All India Radio Agartala correspondent that in Belonia there was a clash between two groups of people in which three persons were injured.

Strike Ends, Pickets Arrested

BK271621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] In Tripura, the 12-hour bundh [strike] called by the state Congress-I committee ended at 1800 this evening. It was by and large peaceful. The bundh was called to press the demands for dismissal of the Left Front ministry for its alleged failure to maintain law and order. The Congress-I committee has also demanded imposition of president's rule and declaration of the whole of Tripura as disturbed area.

The state chief secretary, Mr I.P. Gupta, told our Agartala correspondent that there were some clashes between two groups of people in Belonia in which 5 persons were injured. He said the attendance in offices was satisfactory. Our correspondent reports in Agartala private vehicles and rickshaws were off the road and most of the shops were closed. About 300 people were rounded up in different parts of state for picketing.

Janata Party Chief on Opposition Disunity

BK270953 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] The Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, has regretted that his efforts for opposition unity did not succeed because of personal ambitions of some leaders. Talking to newsmen in Pune today, he, however, said he is very much optimistic about seat adjustments among opposition parties including the Bharatiya Janata Party, the CPI and the CPI-M.

About the emergence of Dalit Mazdoor Kisan [trampled workers, peasants] party, Mr Chandra Shekhar said this kind of political game will not convince the people. Mr Chandra Shekhar alleged that there is an attempt to divert the people's attention by raising the problem of national unity.

UAE Minister Delivers Message for Gandhi

BK251619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] The UAE foreign affairs minister, Mr Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, delivered a personal message from President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan to the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in New Delhi today. Mr Rashid 'Abdallah's visit was arranged at a short notice and he flew back to Abu Dhabi after a few hours halt in New Delhi. Approached by newsmen, he declined to divulge the nature of the message.

Bulgarian Defense Minister Leaves for Home

BK271331 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] The Bulgarian defense minister, General Dobri Dzhurov, left New Delhi today for Sofia after a 7-day visit to India. During his stay he had two rounds of talks with the defense minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, on matters of mutual interest and bilateral cooperation. He also called on the vice president, Mr R. Venkataraman, and the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi.

Trade Discussions With 6 Gulf Countries Begin

BK251539 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Oct 84

[Text] India and six Gulf countries today began a 2-day discussion on strengthening trade and investment cooperation between them. The discussions began in New Delhi today between the finance minister, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, and the control bank governors and other officials from the Gulf countries. Mr Mukherjee told them that India's foreign investment policy is more liberal in case of oil exporting developing countries. He said India is prepared to undertake joint ventures in the Gulf nations and cited several areas where collaboration could be worked out.

Closer Ties Sought

BK270957 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] India and the Gulf Cooperation Council are to strengthen and expand the existing relations between them in trade and investment. The need to augment cooperation between the 6-member Gulf Cooperation Council and India was stressed at the 2-day round table which concluded in New Delhi yesterday. Briefing newsmen about the deliberations of the roundtable, the chairman of the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, Mr K.B. Lal, said the cooperation can be expanded in research and development activities, particularly in scientific and technological fields.

Paper Assesses Pakistani Umbrella Proposal

BK261554 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 15 Oct 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Appraise Soberly"]

[Text] There would be room for concern if, as a Pakistani newspaper has reported, the United States has assured Pakistan of a "nuclear umbrella" provided it foreswears nuclear arms and is willing to accept international safeguards under the NPT [Nonpoliferation Treaty]. The Government of India has sought clarifications through diplomatic channels but American officials state that Pakistan has not asked for nor has the U.S. offered it a "nuclear umbrella." Indeed, the original Pakistani report referred to Washington's readiness to hold out assurances and devise special arrangements for the security of Pakistan should that country be prepared to scrap its nuclear programme. This would be consistent with the statement reportedly made by the American Ambassador in Islamabad that the U.S. is committed to the territorial integrity of Pakistan and will not remain neutral if Pakistan is the victim of external aggression. President Zia has interpreted this as an implied reference to the U.S.-Pakistan security pact of 1959 envisaging U.S. assistance to Pakistan in case of a Soviet attack. The U.S. has been exercising pressure on Pakistan to abandon the pursuit of nuclear weapons and has justified its current military assistance programme to that country on the ground that reasonable satisfaction of its defence needs might be one way of heading off Pakistan's nuclear quest. Further assurances of protection against nuclear attack may well have been offered and need cause no great concern provided this does not amount to a new and closer U.S.-Pakistan security relationship that could tilt the strategic balance in the region. Neither in substance nor in timing is there any hard evidence that this is so and it would therefore be inadvisable to conjure up extreme fears unless there is a surer basis in fact. The U.S. offer, if any, is conditional. If accepted by Pakistan, which is unlikely, this might well be in India's security interest and not adverse to it.

Pakistan's nuclear ambitions have caused apprehensions which have not been stilled by Islamabad's disclaimers. Mrs Gandhi again referred to this while addressing Army commanders in Delhi last Thursday. Pakistan's nuclear programme was "a qualitatively new phenomenon in our security environment," she said, and noted "a pattern of collaboration among certain countries in regard to overall strategic objectives in our region" which must add a "new dimension" to India's defence planning. These dark forebodings need more explicit elucidation; otherwise they can only add to distrust and fear and could cloud rational policy. What is worrying is the arms race that India and Pakistan have entered and which is not doing either of them any good, necessary modernisation apart. This arms race is generating its own tensions and poses a real danger that must be arrested. It is both the cause and consequence of the unhappy state of Indo-Pakistan relations which only these two countries can correct. It would be far better to address this task than seek solutions elsewhere.

Delhi Notes Claim on RDF Bases in Pakistan

BK271314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] PTI, quoting two prominent Pakistan opposition leaders living in exile in London, says that Islamabad has provided facilities to the United States to land its Rapid Deployment Force on Pakistani soil. The report says that these facilities have been provided in Peshawar and Pir Patho in Sind.

The former Pakistan minister and the leader of the Pakistan People's Party, Mr Jam Sadiq Ali, told a news conference in London that these areas are controlled by the United States.

Another opposition leader and former chief minister of Baluchistan, Mr Ataullah Mengal, said the bases have been built as part of an understanding between General Zia and Washington.

Ziaul Haq Amends Assemblies Election Laws

BK261730 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] The president has made amendments to six laws relating to elections for national and provincial assemblies. These are aimed at removing certain (? lacunae) to prevent bogus voting, to strengthen the hands of election authorities for the proper conduct of the elections, and to empower the president to make provisions for the removal of difficulties in giving effect to these laws.

Amendments have been made in the Electoral Rolls Act 1974, the Delimitation of Constituencies Act 1974, the Representation of the People Act 1976, the Election Commission Order 1977, the Houses of Parliament and the Provincial Assemblies Elections Order 1977, and the National and Provincial Assemblies Basis of Elections Order 1979.

Four Killed as Afghan Aircraft Bomb Village

BK291517 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1504 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Text] Two Afghan aircraft violated Pakistani airspace today and dropped four bombs at Arandu village of Chitral sector, killing four persons and injuring five others. Six houses were destroyed or damaged.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office and a strong protest was lodged with him over the continued violation of Pakistan's airspace and bombing of its terrority from the Afghanistan side. He was told that the Kabul administration is increasing tension between the two countries which might bring serious consequences.

The Government of Pakistan has also notified the UN secretary general of the latest violation of Pakistani airspace by the Kabul administration.

Afghan Charges on Border Shelling Denied

BK291538 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Text] Pakistan has denied Kabul's allegations that Pakistan's Armed Forces opened fire with long-range heavy weapons on Jaji region of Paktia Province in Afghanistan on Wednesday, injuring inhabitants and causing loss of property. The denial was conveyed to the Afghan charge d' affaires in Islamabad today. He was told that the allegations are totally false and that Pakistani Armed Forces had not fired in that region or at any other place across the border. Actually, there are no such heavy weapons in the region which could have been used in the alleged firing.

Contrary to Pakistan's example, the Kabul authorities have violated Pakistan's borders on a number of occasions, causing heavy loss of life and property. It seems that by making such accusations, the Kabul authorities want to mislead and deceive the international community at a time when the UN General Assembly is preparing for a debate on the Afghanistan problem.

Government Condemns Indian Charges on Punjab

BK271042 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] The Government of Pakistan has strongly condemned the motivated attempt being made by the Indian authorities to falsely implicate Pakistan in the incidents of violence in east Punjab. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that the allegation reportedly made by a district police chief in east Punjab that two Sikhs had made a so-called confession that they had been trained in Pakistan and provided arms to assassinate some Indian leaders are a complete fabrication. He said Pakistan had adhered to the principle of noninterference in the affairs of other states and rejects these absurd allegations which are also reprehensible because they vitiate the atmosphere of Pakistan-India relations. The spokesman said in the interest of tension-free and good-neighborly relations, the Government of Pakistan hopes that Indian officials will desist from concocting such stories which attempt to involve Paksitan and which have no truth in them whatsoever.

Governor on Terrorists Sent To Sabotage Election

BK281739 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] The North-West Frontier Province governor, Lieutenant General Fazle Haq, has said the terrorist group of Al-Zulfiqar has been reestablished at Kabul. Some of the terrorists have been sent to Pakistan to create law and order situation and try to sabotage the election program.

In an informal chat with newsmen in Peshawar today, the governor said all precautionary measures have been taken to deal with the terrorists. He dispelled the rumors that Afghan refugees were involved in incidents of murders. He said such rumors were being spread by those who are not well-wishers of Pakistan.

About the influx of Afghan refugees, the governor said it is a continuous process and [words indistinct] to the atrocities committed in Afghanistan.

Note Issued on 26 Oct Islamabad Violence

BK271018 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] A press note issued in Islamabad says that some miscreants incited a meeting of [word indistinct] in sector (?I-B), which concluded peacefully, to join an illegal demonstration which was starting out from Khayabani Sir Seyed yesterday afternoon. The press note says that some miscreants joined the illegal demonstration and started throwing stones without provocation. They were charged with batons and tear gas was used.

While dispersing, the miscreants set fire to a Punjab Urban Transport Corporation bus and a traffic police motorcycle. Pri-

vate cars passing through the area were also damaged, and a police car caught fire. The press note says that, in order to incite the mob, a miscreant set fire to a tent erected at the Imambargah [Shi'ite religious place]. The miscreant was arrested on the spot. Four or five miscreants and a similar number of policemen sustained minor injuries.

The press note adds that the situation has been brought under control and a number of miscreants have been arrested.

Karachi on Accident at Rajasthan Nuclear Plant
BK280931 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] According to a report, there has been a leakage of hydrogen sulfide from the Kota atomic power project in Rajasthan State, India. The project manufactures heavy water for India's nuclear plants. According to UNITED NEWS OF INDIA, the leakage last Tuesday resulted in the death of an engineer. The chief engineer and two other employees were admitted to hospital in critical condition. The news agency said that a number of such leaks have occurred at the plant but the Indian atomic energy department has made no comment in this regard.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene Wants U.S. Help To Combat Terrorism

BK271155 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] President Jayewardene has said that as human beings we should make friends rather than enemies. For instance, he said, he was trying to make friends with those who were defeated at yesterday's by-elections. He was speaking at a formal dedication of the new American chancery in Colombo yesterday.

Mr Jayewardene asserted that Sri Lanka has made some contributions to world politics, although being a small country its influence in this field is practically nil. He said the word nonalignment was originated in this country. Sri Lanka was one of the founder members of the Nonaligned Movement and still continues to be an important member.

The president said that the government was determined to wipe out terrorism and he requested the help of America and every other nation to do so. He recalled his meeting with President Ronald Reagan where he had agreed to get together to combat terrorism. He appealed to the United States to help to raise the living standards of our people.

The assistant secretary of state, Richard Murphy, noted that the United States valued its relations with Sri Lanka. He added that they were not seeking military bases here or anywhere else in the world.

U.S. Ambassador John H. Reed, who welcomed the guests, described the inauguration of the new embassy as a significant and thrilling moment.

In a message to mark the event, President Ronald Reagan had stressed that although Sri Lanka and America are on opposite sides of the globe, they share a common bond in the great institution of democracy.

Ruling Party Candidates Win By-Elections

BK261229 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Excerpts] The United National Party [UNP] recorded a landslide victory in the Kundasale and Minneriya by-elections held yesterday. A feature of the by-elections, according to political observers, is a big majority obtained the UNP.

At Minneriya area, the majority of the UNP candidate, S.B. Wijekoon, was 9,176. The total number of votes he polled was 19,744. Vijaya Kumaratunga of the Sri Lanka Mahajana Party [SLMP] received 10,568, while Ratne Deshapriya Senanayake of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party [SLFP] received 6,260 votes.

In the Kundasale by-election, R.P. Wijesiri of the UNP gained 26,280 votes [as heard]. His majority is 18,592. D.M. Jayaratne of the SLFP received 7,788 Votes, while Mahinda Senanayake of SLMP polled 1,727 votes.

Athulathmudali on By-Elections, Arms Recovery

BK261235 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Excerpt] It is clear from yesterday's by-election results that the people always support the government and the security forces in eradicating terrorism from the north. The results are an encouragement for the security forces who are dedicated to safeguarding the country and our heritage. These observations were made by the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, after the inauguration of a self-service shop of the Dehiwela Gultisha multipurpose cooperative society in Dehiwela this morning.

The minister said that the security forces were able to recover several weapons and goods robbed by terrorists after raiding one of the headquarters of the northern terrorists.

Parliament Debates Extension of Emergency

BK261319 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] Parliament is debating the extension of the emergency for another month. A resolution in this regard was moved in Parliament this morning by the minister of parliamentary affairs and sports, Vincent Perera, on behalf of the prime minister. The minister said that the government's efforts were to eradicate terrorism from the country and maintain peace. He explained in detail terrorist activities, killings, robberies, and destruction of property that took place from the 21st of last month up to now. During this period, 19 civilians and 2 policemen were killed. There were several attacks on police stations and the security forces. Terrorist activities in the Batticaloa District have increased. Attempts were made by terrorists to explode bombs in areas other than in the northern and eastern provinces. He praised the public for their patience during such situation.

The health minister, Mr Ranjit Atapattu, pointed out that the Armed Forces and the police were discharging their duties efficiently. Referring to yesterday's by-elections, he said that government's victory indicated that the public was supporting the measures taken to curb terrorist activities.

The member of parliament for Gampaha, S.T. Bandaranaike, appealed to the militant youths in the north to unite like brothers and sisters as Mahatma Gandhi foresaw 57 years ago and take the challenges of the future as one nation. People, both young and old, should get together and evolve a system of commune as in China on some basis of regional autonomy where we can work in unity. He also appealed to them to unite to build a new progressive road, a new (?era) in the country.

Meanwhile, three more ships are to be purchased for activities in the surveillance zone. Parliament today approved a supplementary estimate of 34,573,500 rupees for the purpose. A sum of 1 million rupees for the Ministry of Rehabilitation was also approved. The urban development authorities special provisions bill was passed.

Month's Extension Voted

BK271045 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] The state of emergency has been extended by 1 more month. A resolution to this effect was passed in parliament yesterday; 116 members voted for the resolution while 2 voted against. The Sri Lanka Communist Party and the Mahajana Eksath Peramuna were dissenting parties. The Sri Lanka Freedom Party abstained.

Prime Minister R. Premadasa, winding up the debate on the emergency, said that the United National Party was not prepared to betray the country while claiming to avert foreign intervention. He said that Sri Lanka belongs to every citizen who made it their homeland. We cannot allow a country to be broken up into pieces so that separate states could be set up.

The prime minister noted that the Minneriya and Kundalale by-elections had proved that the people had a better idea than the opposition of the crisis that the country is facing today.

UK Minister Supports Stand Against Terrorism

BK271111 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] The minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, Baroness Young, has told newsmen that she knew that, like the United Kingdom, Sri Lanka has had recent and painful experiences of terrorism.

Like Sri Lanka, the British Government will combat the use of violence with all the means at its disposal. In Sri Lanka also, it seemed to her, that there is a need for an end to terrorism if our several communities are to live in harmony and if the democratic rights of all are to be fully protected. For the essence of democracy, she said, differences of opinion shall be settled by peaceful means.

President Jayewardene told her of the progress of the all party conference. As a friend of Sri Lanka, the British Government hoped that these endeavors will meet with success and that all those concerned will not miss the opportunity to make a new and peaceful beginning.

The United Kingdom's relations with Sri Lanka are based on history and they shared commitment to democratic values and tradition. The warmth of her welcome more than testified the importance both countries attached to their relationship and to genuine friendship between us. She was most grateful for it.

Lady Young said that she hoped very much for a political solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. She said the Indian Government had made it clear to the British Government that it would like to see a peaceful settlement to the problem. Britain has helped to train Sri Lankan police officials for many years. This is one way to contribute to law and order in Sri Lanka.

Japanese Monk Killed in Jaffna 28 Oct

NC290753 Paris AFP in English 0734 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Excerpts] Colombo, Oct 29 (AFP) — A Japanese Buddhist monk was shot to death yesterday in Sri Lanka's troubled northern province, official sources said today.

The unidentified monk was shot in the head while beating the traditional Japanese Buddhist drum in a street in the provincial capital, Jaffna, the sources said.

Officials were investigating the killing, the sources said, adding that minority Tamils seeking a separate state in the north and east were suspected.

Sources suggested that one aim of the killing could have been to frighten foreigners away from Sri Lanka and deal the country's economy a major blow.

Other observers said another goal might have been to make the killing appear to have been planned by Tamils in an attempt to rouse the country's Buddhist majority against the Tamils.

In a separate incident at Ureli, 13 kilometers (eight miles) from Jaffna, the Army shot dead two people riding a motorcycle who sped away when ordered to stop, security sources said.

The patrol chased the cycle and shot dead two of the four, who were suspected to be members of the Tamil Eelam liberation organisation, one of several groups seeking a separate state. The other two escaped into the jungle leaving behind several bombs they were carrying, the sources said.

Khomeyni Stresses Importance of Foreign Relations

LD281147 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, the Foreign Ministry under secretaries, and Iranian ambassadors and charges d'affaires in Europe and America were this morning received by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The meeting began with a report by Foreign Minister Velayati to the imam. Then the imam of the nation delivered a detailed speech on Islamic Republic policy on foreign relations.

Referring to mischief by superpowers and their agents since before the revolution, the imam said: [announcer read] One of the recent mischiefs concerns our relations with other governments. Those who see expansion of relations between Iran and other countries claim that we must not have anything to do with governments. This is a very crucial and dangerous mischief.

Recalling that the prophet of Islam used to send ambassadors to all parts of the world in order to establish relaitons with them, Imam Khomeyni said: When the prophet of Islam considered it necessary to establish relations, then how can we sit by, saying we have nothing to do with other governments? This is contrary to the Islamic precepts. We must have ties with everyone. Obviously, there are a few exceptions.

The imam of the nation, stressing that lack of relations with other countries is irrational, that it ends in nothing but extinction and annihilation, added: We must have relations. Those who we can guide, we must do so by such relations. As for those who we cannot guide, we must be careful not to be slapped in the face, but nevertheless maintain our relations with them. Wherever you ambassadors and charges d'affaires are, you must try to strengthen your ties. Such relations must be friendly, rather than relations between a master and his servant.

The hope of the oppressed people of the world said: We support the oppressed people everywhere. We hope all of them will vanquish the arrogant and the oppressors. However, there are ways of achieving this — establishing relations with them is the way.

The imam of the nation noted that at a time when the United States is engaged in repressing people throughout the world, when we see what is happening in South Africa, when there is such an entity as Israel — in the face of all these, we cannot live with them side by side. Alluding to the fact that as long as God's blessing favors us no power can harm this nation, the imam emphasized: We shall remain resolute forever when it comes to defense. The same thing applies to this country, this nation, and our young men. All the propaganda in favor of Saddam Husayn and all the publicity is aimed at persuading us to leave him alone.

When I was in Paris, a so-called businessman approached me saying that the shah should be allowed to stay in Iran. Later, the same thing was said about former prime Minister Bakhtiar. These were mischiefs. Similar mischiefs are being practiced now by certain people, saying that Iran must not have links with governments, but should establish links with peoples. This is irrational. We must establish ties with the old regimes; we have equal relations with other countries. We no longer have ties such as those under the shah. As for Western propaganda against us, there was a time when it was claimed that the Iraqi regime's acquisition of new French planes would change the situation in favor of Iraq. As we saw, this was simply a propaganda ploy. As for Israel, that country will never come to its senses, acting as a civilized country does.

Friday Imam on Attempts To Impose Peace in Gulf

LD261501 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] Millions of our Muslim compatriots today observed the religio-political ceremonies of the glorious Friday prayers throughout the country. Tehran's Muslim, revolutionary citizens, with their formidable presence at Tehran University and surrounding thoroughfares, observed the unity-inspiring Friday prayers under the imamate of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili, Tehran's temporary Friday imam.

In his second sermon, while referring to the terror campaign of global arrogance against Iran's Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili said: [read by announcer]

A U.S. military-political personality, who was once director of the CIA, wrote a book in which he outlined important U.S. foreign policy issues in three areas, including nuclear war, U.S. protection of Western Europe and South Korea, and U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of other countries. Referring to the significance of these issues in U.S. foreign policy, he wrote: The most important of these issues for the United States is the issue of nations, including that of the Iranian nation. He believes that in facing a nuclear war, protecting Western Europe, and regarding other foreign policy issues, the United States enjoys sufficient power. However, in facing other nations, it does not enjoy such power.

Referring to the repeated plots hatched by the United States and its allies to lower the price of OPEC oil and to defend Israel from the Islamic Republic of Iran's plan for its expulsion from the UN, Tehran's temporary Friday imam then embarked on the problem of the imposed war. He says that as of now, 55 countries have suggested we make peace with the regime ruling Iraq. Tehran's temporary Friday imam said:

[Begin recording] Fifty-five countries are now moving toward imposing peace on us. They tell us: You do not seem to be aware, but it is in your interest to make peace! Fifty-five countries are active. The first of these is Iraq; the second is Egypt; the third is Kuwait; the fourth is India; the fifth is Turkey; the sixth is Pakistan; the seventh is Saudi Arabia; the eighth is the United States; then comes Jordan, the USSR and their ilk! These people call on us to make peace! These people do not want peace: They want Saddam Husayn. These people say: Let Saddam Husayn stay, then proceed from there. We have only one thing to say in reply to what was said by these 55 countries: Sir, we do not want water; we do not want even a single inch of soil; we do not want any heights. If we were to be left alone with the Iraqi nation we would not want any reparations either; we only want Saddam

Husayn and five or six of his satanic henchmen! [thunderous applause]

We will also come down one step and say: You do not have to capture Saddam Husayn and hand him over to us. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United States, the USSR — who are more Catholic than the Pope and adopt a holier-than-thou attitude — are you telling the truth? All you have to do is to stop propping up Saddam Husayn for a single month. Leave him to his own devices and us to ours! You wish to see the region pacified! If this does not happen then you can come and destroy Iran with an atomic bomb! Just give us 1 month! I promise you that on the very first night, when Saddam Husayn comes to realize with certainty that he can no longer draw on the resources of these devils, he would either run away or commit suicide! [loud applause]

These people do not say this. They tell us: During this time we have imposed a war on you and it has been a fiasco. We now wish to achieve our desire by imposing peace! We tell all these people: You have seen the outcome of your attempts to impose your will, whether it be the imposition of peace or the imposition of war! Once again we repeat this sentence: War, the most critical war, is a thousand times better than a peace imposed on a wronged party! [loud cheers] [end recording]

Continuing his second sermon, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili said: [read by announcer] They say that no one in Iran now thinks of the war. But they saw how our combatants carried out only one move on the Meymak front and, by inflicting defeat on the enemy and conquering the country's western heights, forced the Iraqi forces to retreat from the many parts of the Helaleh desert.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili added: By setting up earthworks in the Helaleh desert, the enemy hoped to demonstrate to foreign correspondents that it had not retreated from its positions. However, before they succeeding in setting up earthworks, foreign correspondents inspected the results of the victories acheived by Islam's combatants on the Meymak front.

Prime Minister Chairs Cabinet Session

LD281203 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Excerpts] The Cabinet met this morning with Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi chairing it. During this meeting, home and regional developments were discussed.

During today's meeting, Mr Namdar-Zangeneh, minister of reconstruction crusade, paid tribute to valuable services rendered by martyr Seyyed Hashem Sajedi, commander in charge of war relief of the Najaf headquarters, who was recently martyred in the war between right and wrong.

Armed Forces Chiefs Speak at Joint Staff Ceremony

LD271247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] A ceremony introducing the new chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran was held at the Joint Staff headquarters this morning in the presence of Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, one of the representatives of the imam to the Supreme Defense Council; the chief of the political-ideological organization of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; and a group of personnel of the three branches of the Armed Forces.

During the ceremony, Brig Gen Zahirnezhad, in a speech referring to the role played by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in guarding the achievements of the Islamic Revolution, said: Throughout this country's history there has never existed an army with such harmony and conviction. According to historical testimonies and documents this country and nation have always been vanquished and oppressed. He added: An army and a people who 40 years ago did not have either the motivation or power to stand up to the foreigners and occupiers for even a single hour, have fought heroically and gloriously during the past 5 years, carrying out the commands of the commander in chief of the Armed Forces against Iraq's aggressor forces.

At the conclusion he introduced Infantry Staff Colonel Esma'il Sohrabi — appointed chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces by command of the Islamic nation — to the personnel of the Joint Staff and enumerated his services in the Iraqi-imposed war as commanding officer of Bakhtaran's 81st Division and the Army infantry center.

Col Sohrabi, the new chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces, spoke. He said: Iran's Islamic Army and the revolutionary Muslim nation of Iran constitute a model for the world. The difference between our Army and those of other countries is that our Army is armed with the weapons of faith and piety. The Army's active, heroic presence in repulsing the aggressor is an example of this very faith and piety. He added: Our development program is aimed at realizing Article No 144 of the constitution, that is, attaining an Islamic people's army.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Hojjat ol-Eslam Safa'i, chief of the political-ideological oranization of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, spoke of the characteristics, morale, religion, and piety of the army. He said: The system of the Islamic Republic of Iran is based on truth, service, and merit. To those serving this system, their location, whether or not in the trenches, is immaterial — their only aim is service.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

No 1,892

LD261726 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 26, IRNA — Iraq attacked three civilian population centres in the Islamic Republic during the past 36 hours in a flagrant violation of an agreement reached last June.

The Joint Staff said the town of Salehabad in Ilam Province was attacked today and Abadan in the south and Sar Dasht in the northwest were shelled Thursday, resulting in civilian casualties in all three.

One resident of Salehabad was martyred and three others were injured when Iraqi warplanes attacked the town at 12:45 (9:15 GMT) Friday. Six homes and a shop along with a vehicle were damaged.

A similar attack on the town by Iraq left 15 civilians martyred and 32 others injured last Friday.

The Joint Staff Communique No. 1,892 said the Iraqi forces continued to shell the southern city of Abadan Thursday leaving five civilians injured and 10 homes and shops damaged.

In addition, one civilian was injured and two homes damaged in the Iraqi shelling of Sar Dasht, in the northwestern border province of West Azarbaijan, Thursday.

A U.N.-sponsored agreement between Iran and Iraq on June 12 called on both countries to stop attacks against civilians. However, Iraq has violated the agreement virtually every day ever since by its daily shelling of Abadan's residential quarters and other border towns on several occasions.

The communique said fighting was more intense in the Meymak front in the central battle zone and in the Shahrani and Jazzabeh fronts in the south.

In all fronts the Islamic combatants inflicted a number of casualties and losses on the enemy forces, it said.

No 1,893

LD271702 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 27, IRNA — About 90 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in the various war fronts in fighting during the past 24 hours while all enemy activities in the Meymak operational region were checked, the Joint Staff reported Saturday.

It said 60 enemy troops were killed or wounded in the northwestern fronts of Sar Dasht, Hajj 'Umram and Marivan Friday and one munitions depot, one mortar launcher and several weaponry positions were demolished.

Iraqi troop movements and supply activities came under the fire of the Islamic forces in the Chuman Mostafa, Ana and Varas heights, also in the northwest, added the Joint Staff Communique No. 1,893.

In the central fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam more than 35 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and six armament positions and observation posts, and a vehicle were destroyed.

The Muslim combatants of Iran continued their patrol operations in the regions as both sides traded light and heavy weapons fire, it said.

It said fighting was more intense in the Abadan front than in all other southern fronts. Fifteen Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in that front and at least four weaponry bunkers, one mortar launcher and one 106-mm gun of the enemy were set ablaze

Meanwhile long-range Iraqi guns opened fire on Abadan Saturday and damaged six homes and town shops but caused no casualties, the communique said.

Also the activities of some elements from Iraqi patrol units were repelled in the Jazzabeh and Nahr-e Anbar fronts of the south at 12:55 and 24:00 hours on Thursday by the fire of the Islamic forces.

No 1,894

LD281751 Tehran IRNA in English 1710 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] Tehran, Oct 28, IRNA — A military communique published here today said that about 35 Iraqi soldiers had been killed and another 10 wounded in artillery fighting between Iran's Muslim combatants and the invading Iraqi troops in Piranshah; Sar Dasht, Hajj 'Umran, Marivan and Panjwin on Saturday.

The communique published by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and numbered 1,894 said also that at least 30 artillery emplacements for heavy and or light artillery guns of the enemy troops and two of their mortar launchers had been destroyed by the Iranian forces in the said areas on Saturday. Iran's Muslim combatants also opened fire on enemy logistic routes preventing the movement and relieving operations of the Iraqi troops.

In Bakhtaran and Ilam fronts Iran's Muslim combatants maintained their artillery fire on the Iraqi troops destroying five artillery emplacements, five surveillance posts, one ammunitions depot and killing and or wounding 18 Iraqi soldiers.

Elsewhere in the southern battlefronts artillery fire was traded between the Iranian forces and the Iraqi troops throughout Saturday, the former inflicting casualties upon the enemy troops mainly in Hoseyniyeh, east of Basra, across the Arvand River and in Majnun Islands. In Jazzabeh two enemy vehicles were knocked out and elsewhere across the Arvand River 10 artillery emplacements and one 106-mm gun of the Iraqi troops were set ablaze.

Meanwhile the Iraqi forces continued shelling the Iranian city of Abadan on Saturday as a result of which four houses and six shops were damaged and three spots in the city caught fire upon being hit with shrapnel.

U.N. Attention to Iraqi Violations Urged

LD262307 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 26, IRNA — The Islamic Republic called for the attention of the U.N. secretary general to numerous Iraqi violations of the June 12 agreement against attacks on civilian targets, Friday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman told IRNA that a list containing more than 80 instances of the violations had been conveyed to the U.N. representative office in Tehran and the U.N. secretary general in New York.

More than 20 people have been martyred and over 50 others injured by the attacks, he said.

The information included details such as the date of attack, number of civilian casualties and material damage, the spokesman said.

"For humanitarian and Islamic principles and in accordance with international commitments, the Islamic Republic of Iran has shown tolerance and has not retaliated, and calls for the attention of the international public opinion, especially the respected U.N. secretary general to these open violations of such international commitments."

Iraqi attacks against civilian areas in Iran have intensified in recent weeks. Iraqi planes attacked the border town of Salehabad, in Ilam Province last Friday [as received] and today martyring a total of 18 civilians and injuring 35 others.

A Joint Staff communique also reported shellings against the southern city of Abadan and the northwestern town of Sar Dasht on Thursday. Five civilians were injured in Abadan and one in Sar Dasht.

Abadan and the near-by devastated city of Khorramshahr have been under constant Iraqi shelling from across the Arvand River.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Attacks on Civilian Areas

GF270534 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Following the attacks of the past few weeks by the hirelings of the Baghdad ruling regime on the residential areas of our country including Salehabad in the Ilam Province, Abadan, and Khorramshahr, and repeated violations of the pledge given by this regime, regarding a halt to the bombing of residential areas of Iran, the Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman announced that since 12 June of the current year, the regime of Iraq has committed more than 80 violations of the pledge to refrain from bombing civilian areas.

More than 20 persons have been martyred and more than 50 have been injured in these attacks. Numerous residential buildings have been destroyed. Detailed particulars of the human and material losses in all these incidents have been reported on the day of occurrence to the secretary general of the United Nations and to his Tehran representative .

The Foreign Ministry spokesman announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran which, on the basis of humanitarian and Islamic principles and in deference to international pledges, has restrained itself and not taken any retaliatory steps, invites international comment, particulary that of the esteemed UN secretary general, on such overt violations of international resolutions.

Free Voice of Iran: Commanders Killed in Battle

GF261722 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Text] According to a report by Radio Kermanshah, five commanders of the Guards were killed in recent clashes at the central front. These five are [name indistinct] Qayemzadeh, Mostofa Zarbati, Javad 'Alavi, Murad [name indistinct], and Nabi Zarrin. The radio Kermanshah report announced that these five commanders were killed in recent war operations, but the Islamic Republic regime has so far not given facts and figures of the losses suffered in recent battles in the central sector. However, world news agencies have reported that thousands of Guards were wounded and [word indistinct] in the recent battles.

Self-Sufficiency Reached in Arms Manufacture

GF281700 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust said that the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps forces have reached self-sufficiency in the field of the production of various kinds of mortars, hand grenades, and antidotes to poison gasses.

In a radio interview, Mohsen Rafiqdust pointed out the importance of achieving self-sufficiency. He said: Since the beginning of the war imposed on the Islamic Revolution by the Iraqi regime, our calculations have been that the forces of oppression will impose an arms embargo on the Islamic Republic of Iran. For this reason, we decided to fight with the weapons which we could make ourselves.

The Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps minister said: Islamic Iran has a promising future in achieving self-sufficiency in the sphere of defending its existence. He emphasized that the Islamic Republic of Iran has succeeded in making great leaps and in fulfilling its ambitions in the field of its advanced projects for the manufacture of arms, such as [indistinct word], and all that has to do with mechanical and electronic equipment.

Government Rejects Report on POW Riot

LD272052 Tehran IRNA in English 2039 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 27, IRNA — Iran Saturday rejected a distorted report of a riot in a POW camp in the north of the country and charged the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) of breaching the 1949 Geneva Convention.

A Foreign Ministry official said the Islamic Republic would permit the United Nations to investigate the incident if a similar investigation was carried out on the fate of thousands of Iranians missing in Iraq and the condition of Iranian POW's in Iraqi camps.

He warned any pressure against Iranian POW's as a result of the report would be the responsibility of the ICRC.

Mohammad Ja'far Mahalati, the Foreign Ministry's director general for international affairs, told IRNA the riot which broke out in a POW camp in Gorgan on 9 October had been preplanned by a group of Iraqi POW's and left a total of five POW's killed and several injured.

It started when one of the prisoners sparked off a protest by other prisoners when he gave false information to a Red Cross official on conditions at the camp.

The camp went into chaos and "a group of POW's who had prepared themselves for this riot before hand, attacked the guards to overpower them and some of them attacked the opposing POW's, killing three of them in a horrible way by slicing them into pieces."

The guards used plastic bullets and water cannons to disperse the POW's, Mahalati said.

The Foreign Ministry official said the ICRC had violated the 1949 Geneva Convention because it had made the incident public before a full investigation.

"They (ICRC) used it as a propaganda tool against Iran," he added.

"Any pressure facing the Iranian POW's in Iraq as a result of this action by the representatives of the Red Cross would be the responsibility of the International Red Cross."

He also linked the timing of the ICRC report on Iran's release of 72 disabled Iraqi POW's and criticised the ICRC for delaying their release to a point where Iraq was able to send home 100 Iranian POW's, over 70 of them civilian, sooner than Iran. Iran had first announced its decision for the unilateral relase of the POW's.

Mahalati said the Islamic Republic had completed its list of some 10,000 Iranians missing in Iraq since the war, which was presented to the U.N. Human Rights Commission two years ago but the Iraqi regime was vehemently opposed to an investigation of their fate.

"We request the U.N. secretary general to make a serious effort to convince Iraq and conduct an investigation into their fate."

The officials of the Islamic Republic had cooperated with the ICRC to carry out their responsibilities towards Iraqi POW's in Iran while Iranian POW's, according to ICRC reports, were in "very unpleasant" conditions, he said.

"We in the Islamic Republic have not only acted upon our responsibilities based on the Geneva Convention but at the same time have treated Iraqi POW's in the best manner because of our Islamic and humanitarian motives.

We will continue this practice and the presence or absence of ICRC representatives would make no difference on our humanitarian conduct."

Musavi on POW Incident

LD281811 Tehran IRNA in English 1512 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text]Tehran, Oct. 26, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi today lamented the brutal conduct of the Iraqi regime towards relatives of imprisoned Iraqi Muslim dissidents and called for an investigation by international bodies into the situation of that country's prisons.

Speaking after the Cabinet meeting Sunday, The prime minister termed provocative the recent Red Cross instigation at an Iraqi POW camp in Gorgan (in north Iran). He said the Red Cross representatives' instigations had disturbed the order of the camp. Prime Minister Musavi then added that most of the prisoners had protested the conduct of the Red Cross representatives and were anxious about the information they (Red Cross representatives) gave Baghdad on the activities of Iraqi POW's against the Iraqi regime. This invariably leads to the torturing of relatives of POW's by the Iraqi regime, he said.

The prime minister said that such measures had caused a great deal of discomfort for the Iraqi prisoners in the past. He also stressed that documents had been found and published in this regard last year.

Gharazi Leaves for Geneva OPEC Talks

LD271207 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text]According to our correspondent, Oil Minister Gharazi and an accompanying delegation left Tehran today for Geneva, on the eve of an extraordinary OPEC oil ministers' conference. The OPEC meeting, to be held on 29 October, will reportedly discuss the issue of reducing OPEC's production ceiling of 17.5 million [as heard] in order to foil the conspiracy of global arrogance aimed at manipulating oil prices.

Following the oil price reductions by Norway and Britain, both non-members of OPEC, and the price reduction by Nigeria, an OPEC member, which brought pressure to bear on most of the OPEC members, these member-states recently exchanged views among themselves and several other oil producers outside OPEC and decided to put forward a proposal for reducing OPEC's 17.5 million production ceiling in order to prevent the fruition of the conspiracy to reduce oil prices.

In this connection, the Oil Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that the only way to strengthen the oil market and prevent a price collapse is to reduce production so as to maintain a balance between supply and demand. It is necessary that all OPEC members cooperate on this matter.

Our country's Oil Ministry also believes that because of the relatively low export figures of Norway and Britain, the reduction of oil prices by these two countries cannot influence the oil market to a great extent. Therefore, by maintaining their unity and reducing their oil production, they can thwart the conspiracy of the arrogant governments.

According to our correspondent, before leaving for Geneva, Oil Minister Gharazi stressed the importance of the extraordinary OPEC session in strengthening OPEC unity. He demanded serious confrontation by OPEC members against conspiracies of the superpowers.

Midterm Election Schedule Announced

GF260700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Excerpt] The second round of the Islamic Majlis' midterm elections will be held today in the electoral constituencies of Qa'emshahr, Savadkuh, and Nur va Mahmudabad. In announcing this, the spokesman of the election headquarters of Mazandaran Province said: In the first phase of the second round of the Islamic Majlis elections, the people of the districts of Qa'emshahr and Savadkuh elected one of two members. Today they will go to the polls to elect the next member. Next they will choose one of the two candidates who have reached the second phase. The people of Nur va Mahmudabad will also choose as their representative to the Islamic Majlis one of the two candidates who have reached the second round.

Palestinian Ambassador Summoned to Foreign Ministry

LD271550 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 27 Oct 84

[Text] Tehran, oct 27, IRNA — Salah Zawawi, the Palestinian ambassador to Tehran, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry here Saturday afternoon. He was informed of Iran's dissatisfaction toward the recent statements of Palestinian personalities and circles on mediation in the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran aimed at saving Saddam Husayn.

Meanwhile, Zawawi was briefed about the viewpoints of Iran toward the war as well as Iran's strong disapproval of the recent moves which were considered to be in the interest of the U.S. and reactionaries of the region.

Bomb Explodes at Iranian Embassy in Vatican

LD281057 Tehran IRNA in English 1042 GMT 28 Oct 84

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 28, IRNA — A terrorist bomb explosion at the residence of the Iranian ambassador to the Vatican, Seyed Hadi Khosrowshahi Saturday night caused minor damage to the building.

At time of the incident Seyed Hadi Khosrowshahi was not there. He is currently in Tehran.

The Italian police several months ago foiled an assassination attempt on Khosrowshahi's life.

Tremor in Bakhtaran Region Reported

LD291142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Oct 84

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that at 0130 hours (local) this morning a tremor rocked the district of Oshnoviyeh and its nearby villages. Confirming the report, Tehran University geophysics institute said that the epicenter of the tremor was located in the Bakhtaran region and that its intensity has been registered at about 4.2 on the Richter scale. According to Oshnoviyeh district office, no report has so far been received about any possible casualties or damage, investigations continue.